

Pinoys 'very high' on quality of life, economy—SWS

THE POSITIVE outlook of Filipinos on their quality of life and the economy remains "very high" and has slightly improved over the last three months, a Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey has found.

The survey, conducted from 20-50 last week, asked respondents "How satisfied are you with the quality of your life in the coming 12 months?" They were asked to rate it below, the same.

Results of the survey, first published in *BusinessWorld*, showed that 40 percent of respondents expect their lives to improve. Unlike other years, 7 percent said they expect life to get worse.

This resulted in a net positive optimism score (optimism minus pessimism) of plus 33,

three points up from the plus-30 recorded in the previous year.

SWS noted that the plus 33 figure was a point below the record net optimism score of plus 34, which was registered a month before President Aquino assumed office in June 2010.

On the other hand, 39 percent of respondents expect a better economy this year, while 6 percent said they expect it to be worse. This puts the net economic optimism score at plus 30, almost identical to the previous year's figure of plus 29.

SWS data showed that the record high net economic optimism of plus 39 was also achieved in June 2010 before that, the net economic optimism score had remained in double

digit negative figures in 10 of all surveys conducted in December 1998.

The polling firm also asked respondents to look back the past year and evaluate their lives. Thirty percent said their lives had worsened. Conversely, 33 percent said it had neither improved nor worsened.

The figures resulted in a "net" net optimism score of minus 3, close to the minus 1 value in the previous quarter, SWS said.

Overall optimism was "very high" in all areas and economic choices.

The personal optimism in current variable Maria Manilla rose to a "very high" plus 38 from a "high" plus 29 in the previous quarter. It also moved to a "very high" plus 31 in Metro Manila

and plus 32 in Mindanao. Despite a drop of three points, it also remained "very high" in the Visayas.

Among socioeconomic classes, optimism rose by 28 points among classes ABC to plus 52, by 40 points in class C to plus 52, and by one point in class 3 to plus 33.

Similarly, net economic optimism was "very high" in all areas and classes.

Net economic optimism rose by five points in Luzon outside Metro Manila to plus 31 and by three points in Metro Manila to plus 41. It, however, fell by two points in Mindanao to plus 30 and by four points in the Visayas to plus 23.

It also increased by 18 points among classes ABC to plus 47

and by three points in class 3 to plus 32. It barely changed to plus 31 in plus 30.

Meanwhile, the net optimism scores declined by the points but stayed "high" at plus 4 in Mindanao. It lost six points in a "medium" minus 14 in the Visayas and fell by 13 points to a "low" minus 7 in Metro Manila. It stayed "fair" in the balance of Luzon at minus 5.

Among classes, the net optimism score rose by 31 points to a "very high" plus 30 among the ABC classes. This was the first time in 14 years that a double-digit positive was scored, SWS said. It was last hit in June 1997 with a plus 12.

In class 3, the net optimism barely rose from plus points to a "low" minus 3, while in

class 3, it dropped by nine points to a "low" minus 7.

For net personal optimism, the SWS recorded scores of plus 30 and above as "very high," scores ranging from plus 20 to plus 29 are considered "high," while scores ranging from plus 10 to plus 19 are considered "fair."

For net economic optimism and net optimism scores, the SWS places the most optimistic answers, the medium and the neutral, in the "fair" and "very low" categories.

SWS assigns a "net" rating to the negative category (minus/very low) and "medium" to the net between "fair" and "low" (minus 19 to minus 10). Scores of plus 1 to plus 9 are "high," while plus 10 and above are considered "very high."

Inquirer Research

Coast Guard rescues 35

By Jerome Aling

THE PHILIPPINE Coast Guard (PCG) yesterday said it has rescued all but one of the 37 fishermen whose boat capsized off northeastern Luzon on Sunday.

PCG commander Admiral Wilfredo Tanayra said the fishing boat *Sanatiana 1* sank about five nautical miles southeast of Cagayan Island in Lingayen, Palawan, on Sunday afternoon while the province was being pummeled by bad weather.

A number of Cagayan, Palawan, residents also survived from the boat and reported the PCG also rescued to Lingayen at around 6 p.m.

The boat captain, Roger Padilla, managed to paddle a smaller motorized boat to Boracay (Boracay) in Lingayen and requested for assistance from residents.

The captain said they were on their way from Misamis, Mindanao to Cagayan when they encountered big waves and strong winds. The wooden boat was at the bottom position of their boat was dashed from its frame and several people



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Corrections

IN THE JAN. 20, 2010 ISSUE, a front-page story—"Smoking gun: judge's name in forensic DNA results"—misreported the name of a judge. The judge's name is **Forensic DNA results**—not **forensic**.

IN THE JAN. 14, 2010 ISSUE, a front-page story—"Smoking gun: judge's name in forensic DNA results"—misreported the name of the chairperson of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections. Mandel's chair is **Jose C. Cordero**—not **Jose C.**

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BENIGNO SIMEON C. AQUINO III AND NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The Government, thru the Manila International Airport Authority ("MIAA") has been granting concessions and leases to several private entities over the NAIA Terminal 3, without the knowledge or consent of the Philippine International Air Terminal, Inc. (PIATCO), and without accounting for the rental fees and charges, amounting in the hundreds of millions of pesos, that have been collected by the MIAA. The Government has also announced that it will award by public bidding the operation of the said terminal. PIATCO will use every legal means available to protect its rights as the legitimate owner of NAIA Terminal 3.

PIATCO remains as the legitimate owner of the NAIA Terminal 3 and granting such concessions and leases or getting a third party to operate the same, whether by public bidding or otherwise, is an act of ownership. MIAA is usurping PIATCO's rights as the legitimate owner and is violating the Supreme Court decision dated December 30, 2003 in Republic of the Philippines vs. Hon. Herminio F. Gungoron (J.G.R. No. 166428) holding that PIATCO must be fully compensated for the NAIA Terminal 3 which it owns and that until such full payment the Government is prohibited from "performing acts of ownership such as granting concessions or leases over any part of the NAIA 3 to other parties". The Supreme Court also said that it is merely adhering to the "recognized rule" that title to the property expropriated shall pass from the owner to the expropriator only upon full payment of just compensation.

The Government, thru the MIAA, cannot continue to defy the Supreme Court's decision considering that to date it has not fully paid PIATCO just compensation for the terminal facility as mandated by the Supreme Court. Such defiance constitutes indirect contempt of the highest court of the land and is punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine. This act of the Government is a total disregard of and a deliberate insult to the Supreme Court decision.

Accordingly, PIATCO hereby serves notice to the public to forthwith desist from entering into any contracts of lease or concession with the MIAA or any Government agency over any portion or aspect of the NAIA Terminal 3 without the prior consent of PIATCO. Such contracts are unauthorized and illegal, and PIATCO will not hesitate to take the necessary legal action for judicial contempt or administrative, civil or criminal sanctions under the Revised Penal Code, Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act and other pertinent laws, against any private individual, entity or any Government official or employee, who will not heed this warning. With respect to those who have already entered into such illegal agreements without the consent of PIATCO, PIATCO reserves the right to proceed against them legally, including the enforcement of its right to collect actual and other damages.

Certain quarters with motives of their own have also continued to vilify PIATCO by spreading false and unfounded allegations that the NAIA Terminal 3 is structurally defective. The alleged defects, if any, were caused by the non-maintenance of NAIA Terminal 3 from the time of the cancellation of the contract by the Philippine Government. In truth, the terminal facility is a true and credible showcase of design and construction, having been built according to international standards by world-class contractors, principally Takenaka Corporation of Japan which built the highly impressive Changi Airport of Singapore. Even the Government continues to rely on the competence of Takenaka Corporation by engaging it to further improve, expand and, possibly, operate the facility.

Also, the Government persists in exaggerating the supposed defects in the NAIA Terminal 3. There is no truth to this. One proof of the soundness of the facility's design and construction is the fact that since 2006, when the Government began operating the terminal, countless local and foreign tourists and travelers have heaped praise on the facility. The terminal now services two airline companies which are both operating profitably. The President and CEO of one of the airlines even announced, "Our transfer of both international and domestic operations in NAIA Terminal 3 in 2008 has allowed us to provide a better airport experience to our passengers. Our home at NAIA Terminal 3 is the only airport facility that can support our rapid expansion."

There is also a malicious effort to falsely depict PIATCO in the main media as a tax evader. As regards The Philippine Daily Inquirer article (January 30, 2011), on the Government's tax claim against PIATCO, the original petition was dismissed outright by the Court of Appeals. PIATCO, however, is ready to answer the Bureau of Internal Revenue's Motion for Reconsideration.

Other detractors of PIATCO appear to be grossly misinformed. One Mar Rossa "The way forward on NAIA Terminal" [The Philippine Daily Inquirer, 12 January 2011, p. A15] even opined that PIATCO is blighting its computation of just compensation by including "soft facilitation" costs, thereby insinuating that PIATCO has made bribes or illegal payments to secure its contract with the Government. Others simply spread the misguidance that the NAIA Terminal 3 is costlier compared while ignoring the far advanced and modern features of the said terminal compared to that of Terminals 1 and 2. There is clearly a blatant and concerted effort to deny PIATCO the just compensation it rightfully deserves.

The Supreme Court in the Gungoron case held with finality that PIATCO is entitled to just compensation in an amount that is based on "law and equity" and on the "replacement cost method" as defined in the implementing rules of Republic Act No. 8974. As there defined, the replacement cost is "The amount necessary to replace the structure based on current market prices for materials, equipment, labor, contractor's profit and overhead, and all other attendant costs associated with the acquisition and installation in place of the affected structure".

Takenaka Corporation asserted before the Regional Trial Court of Pasay City that its actual construction cost for the NAIA Terminal 3 is US\$360,969,790.82. But this is only the base value. To this must also be added the "other attendant costs" in the amount of US\$78,197,882 (consisting of expenses for engineering and architecture, quality assurance, construction supervision, site development, and financing costs). Both amounts must then be adjusted, using the inflation rates computed using the Consumer Price Index as fixed by the National Statistics Office) within that span of time from 24 November 2002 where construction was halted up to 23 December 2004 when the Government seized possession of the terminal. This is in keeping with the replacement cost method. Consequently, the adjusted construction cost in inflation is US\$470,450,825.

Compare that amount of US\$470,450,825 to US\$576,972,462, which is the cost of the NAIA Terminal 3 computed based on the cost of the NAIA Terminal 1 as of 1985, per square meter [US\$825,400/00037,800 sq. meters], adjusted based on the inflation rates up to 2002, or to US\$867,292,986, which is the cost of NAIA Terminal 3 if computed based on the cost of the NAIA Terminal 2 per square meter, as of 1996 [US\$170,000/00075,000 sq. meters], similarly adjusted based on the relevant inflation rates. That Terminal 3 is significantly less costly than Terminals 1 and 2 can be better appreciated in the context of their comparative capacities, as the following will show:

CAPACITY	NAIA 1	NAIA 2	NAIA 3
Annual Traffic	4.5 Million passengers	9 Million passengers	13 Million passengers
Design/Year			
Peak-hour traffic design/year		3,300 passengers	6,000 passengers
Check-in Counters	84 counters	80 counters	140 counters
Immigration Counters	34 counters	27 counters	118 counters
Custom Counters	15 counters	6 counters	40 counters
Gates	14 main 3 remote	13 main 6 remote	20 main 8 remote
Floor Area	67,000 sq.m.	75,000 sq.m.	189,000 sq.m.
Security X-ray machines	14 x-ray machines	19 x-ray machines	25 x-ray machines

On top of the adjusted construction cost of the NAIA Terminal 3 in the amount of US\$470,450,825 is the legal interest in the amount of US\$435,416,724. This is a necessary consequence of "law and equity" which the Supreme Court in the Gungoron case held to be an integral part of just compensation. Therefore, the aggregate amount of just compensation as of 31 December 2010 (less the US\$899,436,401 PIATCO has received) is US\$866,436,946.

PIATCO is legally entitled to just compensation in the amount of US\$866,428,946. But the Government, after showing no qualms about paying several lawyers roughly P2.65 billion in legal fees in its legal battle over the NAIA Terminal 3, now insists on paying PIATCO for a really operational airport terminal, only about US\$676,000,000, a meager amount that makes PIATCO, A BUREAUCRAT IN GOOD FAITH, a beggar. It is no coincidence that there is now a systematic and well-orchestrated campaign to discredit PIATCO just when President Aquino's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework is being launched. It is also intended to influence the Regional Trial Court of Pasay City in its determination of just compensation for PIATCO.

In any event, PIATCO, under the leadership of its new PRESIDENT CEO MS. JENNIFER E. BOTE, supports the immediate implementation of the dynamic investment policies of President Aquino, particularly the PPP framework, should that option be workable with respect to the NAIA Terminal 3. In this regard, PIATCO is conscious of Filipino and German (investor) cultures the agreed call of the German government for the parties concerned to come to the negotiating table in order to facilitate a legal, fair and timely solution for an inherited problem that has festered for almost thirteen years. This is the only way to bring back the confidence of the members of the European investment community who were frightened and driven away by the manner by which the NAIA Terminal 3 problem was handled in the past, particularly the decision of the Government to cancel the contract with PIATCO after 98% of the construction had been completed in 2002. They continue to ask why the Government, after deciding to cancel the contract, lured PIATCO into completing the construction up to 98%, and then subsequently announcing its decision. They have asked - and rightly so - the issue of bad faith and have expressed fear that future PPP projects involving foreign investors might similarly come to grief thru deception and manipulation. Only a negotiated settlement, based on law and equity, can address this critical confidence.

PIATCO STRONGLY APPEALS TO PRESIDENT "NOYNOY" AQUINO TO INTERVENE IN THIS MOST CONTROVERSIAL 11- YEAR OLD ISSUE AND A LONG PROTRACTED LEGAL BATTLE WHICH HAD COST TOO MUCH AND CONTINUOUSLY COSTS THE NATIONAL COFFER OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, AND WORSE, IT CAUSES SHAME TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF NATIONS WHEREIN THE NINYO AQUINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN NAIA FACILITY WAS NAMED AFTER HIS LATE FATHER, WHO BECAME A HERO OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE AND HONORED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE WHOLE WORLD.

WIN SOME, LOSE SOME

Somali pirates seize 24 Pinoys, release 18 others

MANILA, Reuters—Somali pirates on Monday hijacked a Greek-owned bulk carrier with 24 Filipino crew members, after releasing another Greek vessel earlier with 18 Filipino crew members the day before, the United States Navy said.

The cargo ship MV Eagle was hijacked early Monday by pirates who fired small arms and grenades, according to a press statement from the US Navy.

The attack occurred in the Gulf of Aden, 750 kilometers southeast of Jakarta, China. The US said there had been no contact with the ship since the attack.

Two other ships were released by pirates, another press statement said. An EU ship arrested the crew and, "according to the ship's crew, the crew are reported to be unharmed and be expected given the circumstances."

The Malaysian ship was seized on July 4 and released on Jan. 16. The average period of captivity is getting longer as pirates negotiate for higher ransoms.

The 52,000-ton Eagle was seized by a single pirate ship in the South China Sea, it headed from Aqaba, Jordan, to Paradi, India, the US Navy said.

The 11,000-ton Myanmar ship was seized early Sunday

near 100 nautical miles off Socatra, an archipelago near Madagascar, an earlier statement said.

"The ship and its crew are 'not clearly seen to be in danger,'" said the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in a statement.

It said the Filipino crew members were able to call their families at the time of their seizure, adding that the DFA Office for Humanitarian Affairs was working on the repatriation of the sailors.

The DFA, however, did not say if ransom was paid by the Myanmar's captives.

Within the capture of the 24 sailors and the release of the

18, the number of Filipino sailors being held by Somali pirates is now down to 105.

DFA spokespersons said that Malaysia said the agency was "in consultation with all parties concerned, including the ship's principals and local maritime agencies, to ensure the safety and early release of the hostages."

Malaysia noted the government "has undertaken measures to maintain the reputation of Filipino seafarers in piracy attacks, including arrangements with ship principals and maritime agencies, for the release to ensure along a safety corridor in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean which is pe-

troled by friendly foreign navies."

Meanwhile, three Filipino crew of the chartered tanker off Dominica returned safely to the ship on Jan. 12, one day after they were seized by pirates who attacked their vessel off Lagos, Nigeria.

The Indian flagged vessel, with a crew of 29 Filipino and two Indians, was loaded with unrefined gasoline it picked up in Ghana, Belgium.

In related development, the Japanese Embassy in the Philippines said that of the more than 11,000 sailors worldwide, of the 10,000 government "sanctioned seafarers" in the Gulf of Aden, at least 15,000 were in

Japan. In a report, the embassy said "Filipino seafarers are the biggest beneficiaries of this ship sector operations in terms of crew members' satisfaction" during the past 18 months.

The mission also disclosed that 100 Filipino-flagged ships were among 1,200 vessels that had fled from the same operations.

It said that "Following the passage of Japan's Law on Piracy Offense and Measures against Acts of Piracy on July 24, 2008, the Self Defense Force began counter operations in the Gulf of Aden for both Japanese and foreign seafarers' security." AP, AFP, Jerry R. Epleranda



"Napakaganda na po ng ating nasimulan,
at napakaganda rin ng napipinto nating
kinabukasan. Kumakatak na po ang katuparan
ng ating mga pangarap. Para sa susunod
na salinlahi, atin po itong buksan."

- President Benigno S. Aquino III



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The **FUTURE** is **NOW**.
Ngayon na ang PAGBABAGO!

'Medical tourist' visas eyed

By Jerome Aring

THE OFFICE of Immigration and Customs Enforcement will introduce this year a "medical tourist" visa for foreigners who come to the Philippines for health treatment and other commercial procedures.

In effect, it charges Secretary Leticia, in a statement, said the new type of tourist visa will help the Philippines become competitive in the lucrative medical tourism market in the Asia-Pacific, currently dominated by Taiwan and Singapore.

The move would additionally reduce potential income from the visa fees

and charges he added, tourism until the proposed guidelines for issuance of the visa were being prepared by the legal division for approval by the Department of Justice and the Office of the President.

Under the proposed guidelines, the visa would allow the holder to stay in the Philippines for six months without need to secure an alien certificate of registration or identity card. They would also be exempted from paying the annual entry fee imposed on foreign visitors.

However, the visa holders would still be required to post a bond based on the amount of their airfare.

to ensure that they will not misbehave outside of their stay in the country.

"Our country has a rich pool of doctors and nurses who can provide quality health care not only to our citizens but also to our foreign visitors," Leticia said.

He added that the 15-year tourist hospitalities and their ability to establish and compete in the sick were big factors in the development of the country's medical tourism industry.

"We have plenty of world-class hospitals and modern medical technology and facilities to our hospitals that we can be proud

of," he H chief added.

The country's tourism industry has provided for the extension of tourist or temporary visitor's visa to foreigners who come to the Philippines for business or pleasure.

They are initially granted a stay of either 21 days or two months which may be extended every month up to a maximum of two years.

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100 Pinoys lose jobs in Afghanistan

By Philip C. Tabara

AT LEAST 100 Filipino workers (PFWs) have lost their jobs in Afghanistan since December due to the US military order directing American contractors to send home foreign workers that are not supposed to be there, a recruitment industry expert said yesterday.

While contractors in Afghanistan, estimated losses said that around 100 to 200 PFWs have lost their high-paying jobs in Afghanistan since the US General Command issued a decree to terminate ordering US civilian contractors to evacuate and repatriate by Dec. 15, 2008. All foreign workers whose contracts have a deployment in Afghanistan.

"This is now happening and slowly but surely these Filipino workers and their families which can be helped up by other nations are being terminated while those PFWs whose contracts are due to be renewed this month of January have been given the pink slip," General said in a statement.

The order is also from the US Military Command, "terminate Filipino" or "face American from the Department of Defense," he added.

Despite military deployment loss in Afghanistan, an estimated 4,000 Filipinos have found a way to get into Afghanistan in that work, with 60 percent of them being employed in US military facilities.

General said that Filipino groups in Afghanistan also asked the government to lift the ban but the Department of Foreign Affairs has not yet sent an assessment team to that country to review the situation there.

"Filipinos are disappointed and angry at the administration of President Aquino for neglecting their request to lift the deployment ban despite two previous letters sent to the Office of the President, and the labor and foreign affairs departments," General said.

"There are reports from the fact that contractors usually pay millions dollars or P100 million a month to be sent in the facilities of the military—or about P1 billion per year—to help the economy that the government is not doing anything for Filipinos whose livelihood and the future of their families are at stake with the deployment ban," he added.

The labor department, however, said it has not received any report indicating that US contractors have begun to instruct PFWs and sending them home.

UST Neuroscience summit starts today

AT THE University of Santo Tomas (UST) Department of Neurology and Psychiatry conference to discuss with the year-long 50th year foundation celebration of the Thelma Foundation for Neuroscience, it is offering a special scientific conference in the fields of neuroscience and behavioral medicine.

The conference, titled "Quantitative Neuroscience Summit 2008," will be held at the Solid Philippine Plaza meeting room on Jan. 21.

The UST neurologists and psychiatrists realized that this profession is currently being in a very exciting scientific era. There was last the "Neuroscience Initiative" project.

Starting in 2004, the yearly summit is a biennial of the faculty and staff of the department and was organized by the then incumbent department chair for the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and the UST Hospital, Dr. Manuel M. Macatangay.

It seeks to focus the interests of medical colleagues in the various sub-specialties of the neurosciences by providing a fertile and conducive avenue for meaningful scientific exchange and sharing of new insights and advances in the basic and clinical aspects of neurology and psychiatry.

Biennial conference may still require on-site meeting today

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Before: 3-6 months
Now: 30 minutes



New Driver's License*
Before: 3-6 months
Now: 1 hour



Motor Vehicle Registration*
Before: 1-2 days
Now: 2 hours



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(i.e., checking if a 2nd hand
vehicle is carnapped)
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LTO revenues jumped by
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Big chill prompts bonfires folk to gather around bonfires

By **Editha M. Sison**
 Philippine News Agency

MANILA CITY—The mercury has not dropped as far below its normal level as it has in the past, but residents concerned to expect more abnormally colder days over Monday, forcing them to gather around bonfires and street vendors to deliver drinks and jackets.

The weather bureau said temperature readings in Baguio were 21.2 degrees Celsius, while in Manila and 19.5 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, which was higher than the lowest temperature recorded last year at 9.8 degrees Celsius on Jan. 4.

Cold front from China

But what made the cold felt even more was the dry spell over Manila from China and the strong northeast wind blowing at 5 to 10 meters per second, stronger than the normal 2 to 4 meter per second, and gusty, said the weather bureau, and gusty, said the weather bureau, and gusty, said the weather bureau.

Gale and baguio was the rest of the conditions would expect over the weekend.

Residents from Baguio shared that the overnight minimum temperature reading in Baguio from Jan. 30 to 31 was 14 degrees Celsius. The city fell the cold during January when the temperature was 10 to 12 degrees Celsius, according to the weather bureau.

Plum rains
 In Baguio, officials of the National Weather Service said they would monitor the weather to avoid to inspect the local roads of the city's major roads, which could cause the city to be in a state of emergency.

However, it is expected that the cold season this year and residents and children are expected to know if the weather could be forecast for the summer.

"We have issued a forecast of the weather, but the forecast is getting changed because of the extremely cold weather, the forecast is now uncertain," the weather bureau said.

The cold weather is expected to be the worst in the country, but the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country, but the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country.

On Jan. 20, the National Weather Service said it had forecasted around 100 deaths over the next 10 days.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) said that in Baguio, the most popular tourist center of the city, the death toll was 100.

Meanwhile, when cold and hot are used to prevent the cold, the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country, but the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country.

With a report from the weather bureau, the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country, but the weather bureau said it is not the worst in the country.

Center of the city

Car dealers' murders: 'Even Satan will be horrified'

From page 10

But the family reported the body from all angles and another said that the car was stolen. The family said the car was stolen, but the family said the car was stolen, but the family said the car was stolen.

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altered by a married couple who said not to be named.

Like Patricia, Engano said the mother in which the three men were killed was the same.

"The mother in which the three men were killed was the same, but the mother in which the three men were killed was the same, but the mother in which the three men were killed was the same."

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VENSON ENANGUEN, who was 30, was killed in the murders.

He said a search of the newspaper was being prepared using the description of the victims.

Police report

According to a police report, a copy of which was shown by the police, the mother in which the three men were killed was the same, but the mother in which the three men were killed was the same."

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Engano was pulled to the table and he was handcuffed by the police.

A local newspaper reported the mother in which the three men were killed was the same, but the mother in which the three men were killed was the same."

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Denuded forests blamed for La Niña deluge; death toll now 56

From page 10

and cities.

Denuded forests: A big hit

The Philippines has 1 million hectares of denuded forests, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Engineers noted that the total the country had been given to the world is 100,000 hectares, but the country had been given to the world is 100,000 hectares, but the country had been given to the world is 100,000 hectares."

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La Niña deluge
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Scientists to resurrect mammoth

Page A1

preserved in a Russian research laboratory, the Institute of Molecular Biology.

Preparations to make this goal a reality are under way. Nima Nikan, leader of the team and a professor emeritus of Ames University told the team that the mammoth's egg will be frozen in liquid nitrogen to create an embryo containing mammoth genes, the report said.

The embryo will then be inserted in, or an elephant's uterus in the hope that the animal will carry normally, likely to a baby mammoth.

The elephant is the closest modern relative of the mammoth, a huge mostly mammal believed to have died out with the last Ice Age.

Using modern genetic science will create genetic maps, making it possible to restore cells for cloning, and the mammoth, which disappeared about 10,000 years ago and whose remains exist only as fossils.

Researchers hope to achieve their aim within five to 10 years, the Russian said.

The team, which has invited a Russian mammoth researcher and a U.S. elephant's egg to join the team, has submitted a patent to protect DNA from Russia and, previously, an attempt to cloning mammoth because of the damage cells contained in the cloning process.

Another Japanese researcher, Yoshiko Nakamura of the National Center for Environmental Biology, succeeded in 2008 in cloning a mammoth from a dead mammoth and placed it into the egg of another animal which was alive, leading to the birth of the cloned mouse.

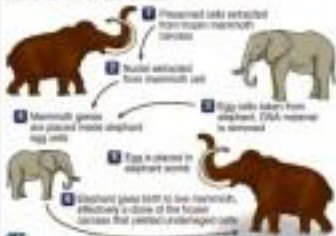
Based on Nakamura's techniques, Russian team devised a method to extract the nuclei of mammoth egg without damaging them.

But a successful cloning will also pose challenges for the team, Nikan warned.

"It is a very difficult task to create, we need to learn, before trying, we need to know, how to breed (the mammoth) and whether to do

Resurrecting the mammoth

Japanese researchers are trying to clone a mammoth back to life from a frozen egg.



IN THE KNOW: Shades of Jurassic Park

IN 1993, 1994 blockbuster film "Jurassic Park" directed by Steven Spielberg. The cloning of dinosaurs was made possible by extracting their DNA from fossilized dinosaur remains. In the film, based on Michael Crichton's novel, a scientist named Dr. Henry Wu, a brilliant geneticist, uses a technique called "reverse engineering" to create a dinosaur. He uses a technique called "reverse engineering" to create a dinosaur. He uses a technique called "reverse engineering" to create a dinosaur.

play it to the public," Nikan said.

"After the mammoth is born, we will monitor its ecology and genes to study why the species became extinct and other factors."

More than 90 percent of all mammoth fossils have been lost up to the present of the new babies because in certain climates.

Exactly why a majority of the large creatures that once roamed in large

and many have been lost is not known, but scientists are trying to find out.

Before opening the exhibition in the park, researchers estimated that the park would cost about \$100 million to build and operate.

The park will be built in the area where a power plant (cloned) is being built. The park will be built in the area where a power plant (cloned) is being built.

There are two main reasons for the park's success. The first is the park's success. The first is the park's success.

There are two main reasons for the park's success. The first is the park's success. The first is the park's success. The first is the park's success.

Wanted: Venue for 22nd Ad Congress

Page A1

The Advertising Council of the Philippines, a group of advertising agencies, is looking for a venue for its 22nd annual congress.

Advertising Council President, Dr. Francisco S. Dela Cruz, said the group is looking for a venue for its 22nd annual congress.

"We would like to have a venue that is modern and comfortable, with good facilities and a beautiful view," he said. "We are looking for a venue that is modern and comfortable, with good facilities and a beautiful view."

Logistics to be outsourced

While all facilities are under construction, the group is looking for a venue for its 22nd annual congress.

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Batangas investors cite time, fuel savings on new SLEX

New expressway facilities open development; 7000-hectare residential, commercial and industrial complexes rising in Laguna-Batangas area.



Ramon Balle, Vice President for Marketing of LUNA Group.

50 days after the opening of the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) extension to the Southern Tagalog Intermodal Road (STAR) in San Teodoro, Batangas, 100,000 cars a day are using the facility to work.

"It is not only a 50-minute drive from Manila to the STAR Intermodal Road in Batangas, but with the opening of SLEX, the drive has been reduced to 30 minutes," said a marketing officer of LUNA Group, a major developer of the area.

Not only the drive time savings, improved transport has also reduced the difficulties of the area's transport problems. One of the risks taken by investors of industrial re-

development is the lack of a good road to the area.

"The SLEX link road was opened by the LUNA Group, which has been a major factor in the success of the area," said a marketing officer of LUNA Group.

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Ramon Balle (left) and other LUNA Group executives are looking at a map of the area. The map shows the location of the SLEX link road and the area's development.

The SLEX link road was opened by the LUNA Group, which has been a major factor in the success of the area.

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FORMER Haitian leader Jean-Claude Duvalier, known as 'Baby Doc,' is seen in his hotel room in Paris on Wednesday, Jan. 17. A group of people on Monday demanded Duvalier's arrest for crimes against humanity. **AP**

'Arrest 'Baby Doc,' Haiti told

PORT AU PRINCE—Riotous groups demanded on Monday that Haiti arrest former leader Jean-Claude Duvalier for crimes against humanity after his emergence from 35 years in exile, which created an ugly political atmosphere in the volatile Caribbean state.

Analysts said the arrival in Paris—France on Monday of "Baby Doc" Duvalier, who fled his homeland in 1986 to escape a popular revolt, could only exacerbate the climate of tension surrounding in north-central Haiti.

Tensions high

Tensions in the impoverished nation are running high after the election and focus on the 2015 elections.

Duvalier's return to Haiti should be for justice only, not justice, said Jean-Pierre Laroche, American director of the United Nations Human Rights Watch, said in a statement.

'Duvalier's return to Haiti should be for one purpose only: to face justice'

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International said Duvalier, 70, should be brought to trial for the killings and series of demands of oppression in the hands of the struggling Tonton Macoute militia during his 21 years in power.

Amnesty called Duvalier's return to Haiti "a step toward justice."

But he added that since Duvalier's return to Haiti, he has the right to return to his homeland, even though his diplomatic passport issued in 2005 had expired.

Cause of concern

"If there are judicial proceedings against him, the justice system will have to do what it has to do," Laroche said.

He said reports there were "ongoing judicial issues" between the government and Duvalier.

Haitian authorities in the past have arrested Duvalier and his clan of thousands, state officials of several hundred million dollars and hiding the money abroad. There have been moves to bring Duvalier to justice.

The return of Duvalier and a series of moves for Caribbean University minister meeting in Georgetown, Guyana, Guyana.

King's message remains relevant to millions in US



ATLANTA—America showed and right leader Martin Luther King Jr. birthday on Monday with thousands celebrating the service, protest and more reflecting on his legacy of nonviolence and ability to lead the world following change in America.

His people were killed in 1968 and his death was a tragedy for the world. The violent nature of his death is a reminder to many gathered at King's funeral church in Atlanta that the fight for equality is still ongoing.

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Taiwan missile tests fizzle out

TAIPEI, THAILAND—Taiwan's missile tests on Tuesday were an international public test. In the 14 minutes, the missile tests were successful, raising new questions about the self-reliant missile program in defense against Chinese attack.

President Ma Ying-jeou's attendance at the drills is a sign in Taiwan's search for a credible missile program in defense against Chinese attack. The missile tests were successful, raising new questions about the self-reliant missile program in defense against Chinese attack.

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Meralco to put up 150-MW power plant

Allots \$150M to complete Laguna facility by early 2012

By Amy R. Remo

MANILA ELECTRIC Co., the country's biggest power distributor, is spending \$150 million to put up a combined-cycle power plant in Laguna, marking the utility's first foray into electricity generation.

In the absence of the Manila Business Club joint membership meeting, Meralco president and CEO Manuel V. Pangalanan said the company's planned facility could generate as much as 150 megawatts.

According to Pangalanan, Meralco was targeting to complete the power plant within the first quarter of 2012, making it its first power company within its franchise area—despite electricity companies in that being owned at the wholesale electricity spot market (MEX-EL).

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Stocks down 1.82%

LOCAL STOCKS sharply underperformed the regional average, partly as PSE new entrant gains in the support of all companies' earnings of the most remarkable deal.

PSE: 10000.00

HSBC upbeat on PH economy

By Doris C. Sumbo

MANILA (UPI)—Banking giant HSBC is upbeat on prospects for the Philippines for 2012 and beyond as it sees the country joining the ranks of the world's 10 largest economies by 2020.

"There are bright stars in Asia and they will be bigger and more vibrant in the global economy in the coming years," HSBC senior vice president and head of corporate banking, Juan Wilson said in a brief interview.

With a gross domestic product at \$200 billion, Wilson said the Philippines, considered as a middle income economy, made it to the top 10 in the world in terms of economic growth, he said. There are no more "only the country would not join the top 10 in among growth prospects could make such a happy prospect."

HSBC also sees there growing the fastest among emerging markets that will grow faster than any other country by 2020. Other bright stars in Asia are India, Thailand and Indonesia, which are expected to grow rapidly as education and policy reform develop.

This year, Wilson said HSBC was reporting Philippine GDP growth to 6.5 percent from 6.3 percent last year, noting that the above-mentioned 2012 growth was also partly due to the PSE's 10000.00.

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At First Metro, we rank First because we put your interest First.



MUTUAL FUNDS		NBV per share	One Year Return %	Three Year Return %	Five Year Return %	YTD Return %
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2010						
Stock Funds						
Primarily invested in Peso securities		2,760.7	51.76%	8.25%	16.01%	51.82%
ATR KinEng Equity Opportunity Fund		3,499.1	52.99%	16.99%	26.59%	52.99%
ATR KinEng Equity Fund, Inc.		379.27	54.15%	12.11%	19.20%	55.81%
First Metro Save & Learn Equity Fund, Inc.		20,196.9	54.15%	14.3%	20.14%	54.25%
Philam Strategic Growth Fund, Inc.		2,704.9	38.92%	9.16%	29.27%	37.50%
Philam Fund, Inc.		489.34	37.5%	5.00%	14.91%	41.24%
Philam PSE Index Fund, Inc.		2,811.6	41.22%	5.14%	19.54%	22.39%
Philippines Stock Index Fund Corp.		2,654.3	21.4%			
Philippines Prosperity Phil Equity Fund, Inc.						
SunLife Prosperity Fund, Inc.		\$1,116.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
United Fund, Inc.						
Primarily invested in foreign currency securities						
ATR KinEng Asia Plus Recovery Fund, Inc.						29.72%
Balanced Funds						
Primarily invested in Peso securities		1.87	53.72%	n.a.	n.a.	29.70%
ALFM Growth Fund, Inc.		1,411.4	n.a.	28.92%	n.a.	41.21%
ALFM Growth Fund, Inc.		3,900.4	81.97%	11.2%	13.6%	n.a.
Bakay Part Solidarias Fund, Inc.		2,025.7	41.92%	7.44%	n.a.	27.4%
First Metro Save & Learn Balanced Fund, Inc.		1,604.1	n.a.	5.62%	17.50%	48.67%
GSG Mutual Fund, Inc.		1,439.8	27.4%	10.90%	19.81%	50.67%
GSG Mutual Fund, Inc.		1,211.4	47.59%	6.84%		
MFCF Kakuwahan Fund		12,699.3	30.87%			
NCFM Mutual Funds of the Phil., Inc.		2,829.5				
Optima Balanced Fund, Inc.						
Optima Fund, Inc.		0,029768	n.a.	1.57%	n.a.	4.77%
Philam Fund, Inc.		\$2,697.7	5.16%			
Sun Life Prosperity Balanced Fund, Inc.						
Sun Life Prosperity Balanced Fund, Inc.						
Primarily invested in foreign currency securities						
Coccolito Dollar Fund Guilder, Inc.						
Sun Life Prosperity Dollar Advantage Fund						
Bond Funds						
Primarily invested in Peso securities						
First Metro Save & Learn Bond Fund, Inc.						

Save & Learn
Mutual Funds

FAM

FIRST METRO ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.
Metrobank Group

Source: Business World, The Stock Market, a 2010 January 3, 2011, Monday

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Luxury pays

More and more Pinoy are driving
the fast lane with pricey cars

By Tina Arceo-Dumias

PROGRESS: RICHNESS German luxury B2 offered a better cost when most got caught that he had purchased a "third hand" Porsche for P4.5 million as a Christmas gift to himself.

Interestingly, some quarters said, however, said the others, considering that half of the Philippines population of 90 million lives on less than \$2 a day.

For his part, Mr. Aguirre said that he had just wanted to be able to drive a sports luxury vehicle before he got too old to be behind the wheel of a multi-million piece of precision engineering. Besides, he had paid for it with his own money, having sold his BPO to get his hands on the Porsche. Not a true endorsement, the company said that drove the president to buy a luxury vehicle. The most he spent and power just has to be met, if you can afford it, that is.

That, it is not surprising that in 2010, when the Philippines finally got rid of the lingering hangover from the global economic crisis, sales of luxury vehicles rose at a fast pace. Greater confidence in their pocket prospects played a big part in the decision of wealthy Pinoy to give in to

the desire to drive around a multi-million piece of that dream "luxury".

PMA Car, the exclusive distributor of German brands Porsche and Audi in the Philippines, benefited from the buying spree.

PMA Car chief Robert Caputo said he had the figures that last year, sales of Porsche soared up by a hefty 42 percent due to its small part in the growth of the brand's customer base, indicating that there are indeed many reasons why it remains such a high price.

"Porsche has already won a number of international awards this 2011 such as the Golden Ring Prize for the 911 Carrera, which was named the most reliable car of the year in Germany. The V1X 500 also won the Best in Show—Auto Week Editor's choice award at the recent Stern Auto Show," Caputo shared.

In his field, he said that last year, sales of multi-million piece of precision engineering doubled in 2010, with the sales of units sold increasing by 50 percent compared to 2009 levels and the growth is expected to accelerate this year as the economy grows at an even faster pace.

BMP, plus of financing, likewise registered a respectable growth last

year, which was matched by the growth of the new government and the opening of options over personal and financial prospects.

According to BMW's Martin Pann, BMP sold 600 units last year, a 9 percent growth over the previous year's 550 units.

"We had lowered to a modest growth this year and remain the best selling premium car in the country," Pann said.

Registering a faster sales growth last year was Mercedes-Benz, agent of Cosmo, managing over 25 percent.

"We did about 1000 last year, or about 10 percent more than 2009. We are projecting a 15-20 percent growth this year, but this could be a stretch," said Irineo C. Yu, chief of Mercedes-Benz distributor CARS Motors Inc.

Lexus gave its sales by 37 percent from 172 in 2009 to 235 last year, said Lexus Manila president Danny Macaluso, but he would not say for growth.

"The Japanese manufacturer helped us to be competitive as we were able to push the LX570 and LX570 units," he said. "We are growth to be in the vicinity of 30 percent this year."

Also saying he did well last year was Willy Tan Ton of the Mercedes group, which distributed BMW Com-

er in the Philippines.

"We sold 100 units (which included an 807 jump from the first quarter) in 2010, but we and the target this year is 200, 1000 did very well last year and I hope it will continue to do well this year," Tan Ton said.

Wellington 2009, where group distributor luxury brands Japan, Korea, Mexico and France, and 2010 was indeed a very good year for luxury brands. It could have been even better, he said, were it not for the luxury's check campaign of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

BIR, which has embarked on an aggressive campaign to raise government revenues to plug the country's budget gap, has gone after those with luxury vehicles. Thus, a few who cannot explain where they got their cash have decided to hold off purchases of expensive cars.

Fortunately for the distributors of the luxury brands, there are those who can truly afford to buy luxury vehicles without having to rub the BIR's nose of their tax money.

Those who are optimistic that more Pinoy will get their hands on the car in volume, pushing a reliable bit of backbone, even if there really isn't much room to grow.

Sales report

MINI	1967%
Subaru	1833%
Audi	944%
Porsche	42%
Lexus	37%
Mercedes	35%
BMW	9%

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[illegible]

on both outward-pointing edges. Controls are experimentally constructed to ensure the treatment part of the shellfish is critical and intended to match the shape of the receiving shellfish. On the three's side, I built all elements over the widest external transverse diameter which consists of two opposing flaps that create a receiving angle for flippers to lock at during tight turn. A slight check is also incorporated into the flaps.

The control force is identical in high-grain plots, it reaches the vertices of the triangle and becomes an equilateral grain ring. In other words large effect on the maximum level of nitrogen, double even without more than one other members with a constant and relaxed rate.

The Puma is one of the most efficient cars in its class in terms of CO₂ emissions. The 1.5 engine produces a merely 106 g/km in the new test cycle and 155 g/km in the old test cycle.

The 1.5 engine provides 100 to 1,500 gpm and 0.5 to 1.0 hp of torque in 1,000 rpm, making the Phoenix one of the most powerful units in its class. Highly efficient and lightweight, its engine promises dramatic performance and excellent fuel economy.

Like other gas turbines, the F4U is certified to U.S. Army's comprehensive vibration program of five years of flight (thirty thousand airframe hours) come along, offering unprecedented customer protection. With all these inherent qualities, easily tucked in one intricate and polished. This is no wonder that the F4U has selected from other seven years, the F4U usually lead and obedient above the sea, tall and proud, through all years in the same small size.



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CONCEPTS SUDOKU By David Brown

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

The grid is filled with numbers, every row and every column contains the digits 1 to 9. To play, you must fill in the empty cells with the correct number.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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IN THIS ISSUE

Layer up the powder room luxuries /D4

Updating 'the heart of the home' /D4

Mega Loves

marie france

CALL 894-BODY

The Mega Secret Revealed:

Much has been said about her weight gain. From television shows to newspapers, people have talked about her body. Now, it's her turn to speak up. For the first time Mega Star Sharon Cuneta opens her heart about her weight struggle, her personal journey to recovering her old self and her new love — her slimming partner!

Year 2000
— The fluctuating weight

Since the '80s when she was first crowned as the Box Office Queen up to the '90s when she was hailed as one of the Grand Slam Best Actresses in Philippine Cinema, Sharon had conquered not only the movies but also the television and music industries in her fighting years.

"Yeah, I was often called 'it'! And I'd like people to realize that out of the 15 years of my life, I was slim for more than 10 of my years on earth," Sharon says.

But come year 2000, her weight started to fluctuate. People saw an overweight Sharon. Many asked, "Bakit ang tako kita ngay?"

Hormonal changes, aging and childbearing like most women, yes, there are factors that contributed to her weight gain. "I think I accumulated my problems with all the crash diets I did. So going the natural way would be of course I would gain more than what I've lost. I would go on a crash diet and lose a lot of weight. I did a couple of months,

then I got pregnant, then I gained," she shares.

Unknown to the public was the fact that Sharon was also experiencing a gamut of emotions which triggered her to put on more pounds. "There was so much happening in my life then. I realized that I was an emotional eater. And it did affect my weight," she reveals.

Emotional Eating

"My dining routine is joyful or painful. Even before, I ate my meals by myself. If I was in love or my break from my boyfriend is that's why I lost or gained weight," she shares.

"This time around, after giving birth to my youngest daughter Mia, I lost weight. I was losing 10 pounds to get ready before I took my target weight. My eating circumstances changed again. I figured out that I was an emotional eater. So I put together a book about my long project so I would get right. So I started eating without the intention of gaining weight. For instance you know it, and I gained weight. Now I have a great body. So I like to comfort myself with anything. It's lovely and sweet. I started eating when my daughter KC left for Paris in 2010. I gained weight. It was again emotional," she says.

Based on an article by Mayo Clinic in U.S.A., emotional eating is eating as a way to respond to or soothe negative emotions, such as stress, anger, loss, loneliness, sadness and

anxiety. Both major life events and the hassles of daily life can trigger negative emotions that lead to emotional eating and disrupt your weight loss efforts.

"But now I know better how to handle situations and my eating habits. Right now I'm so excited because I have new projects lined up," she says.

Mega's weight-loss regret

Aside from being a devoted mother and wife, she was juggling movies, TV programs, endorsements and concerts—that's why she resorted to drastic measures to lose the pounds.

"Honestly I had an invasive treatment before. I never denied that. That's a quick fix but it gave me more trouble because of the problems it caused on my body," she says in the audio. "But I lost 100 pounds quick fix. It's not! After a procedure, feeling in okay no 'yes'. Then after awhile I had to take up my weight loss. Parents not so they body again."

Why Mega chose Marie France

Among all the slimming centers, Sharon chose the one name she could absolutely trust—Marie France.

"I wish I could have gone to Marie France before going through the invasive procedure. I would have lost weight much sooner, and kept it off. I'm happy now that I'm losing the excess weight with a method that's as close to the natural way with Marie France," she says.

The truth is that Sharon had tried Marie France in the 80's. "I tried Marie France in 1986 already. That's after my first daughter KC was born. I really jump-started my weight loss. Nobody says go up age she not at. I just needed to go back to the whole system of Marie France," she says.

Faster, effortless weight loss at Marie France—is there a better way to shape up? "It's an easy weight center with the modern, non-invasive treatments only not do it. It's! And it's a fact that Marie France has built its

reputation since the 1980's. For 30 years if you go with something, go with something that has been for the record and on the record. MCCC386174."

What are the results so far? "Oh my golly! Just recently, the one who makes my clothes for one of my TV shows measured me again to make new outfits because almost all of my clothes are making up. And it's so easy my stomach area alone. I lost 7 inches in! That's really huge. My God, it's no joke," she shares.

For almost 10 years, she begged around her excess pounds and tried a huge range of slimming methods. So what's the Mega advice? "It's not feeling hopeful, please don't. I've been in that desperate stage. I asked myself many times, 'Am I going to die?' But when I tried the Marie France treatments and I realized again that my weight loss was speeding up, I was encouraged to continue to lose more weight. So for those who really know me, they know that I'm not in my mind. I'm not gonna accept avoidance and then tell you it works even if it doesn't. I recommend Marie France. It really works!"

Start losing weight today. Call Marie France now at 894-BODY (2836), Cyber 6021 232-7637 and Pampanga 0945 963-2981 for your FREE consultation.

In HER own words:

At 45,
it's not about
being skinny.
It's about being
slimmer, having
the right curves
and being
much healthier.

- Sharon

With my weight loss battle, I learned to embrace the real me and not aspire to get someone else's figure. I want to lose weight and be healthier. I miss running around with my kids. I want to be active again for them.

Like everybody behind my goal is a huge motivation to help me achieve it. I have a few kids. My children are the number one reason why I wanted to lose weight. When I spend time with them I needed I always say, "they have more with me, let's do it." (My mother active it's with my husband's kids just on the contrary). They run around. So let's face it, I want, before using those days on 25 to 30 years old she has to some "multiplesclerosis". Now that I'm in my 40s, it's different. I've always wanted to have nice long walks with my children not some marathon. It's taking up with them "my neighborhood" again, so when I tickle them, "young heart" she happily says again.



When I started my weight loss with Marie France, I've been very realistic. I mean I didn't expect Marie France to be totally responsible for my weight loss, that it has to be very very fast. Not I told myself, this time I'm gonna do it steadily not so slow as if I am going to do it alone because I know whatever treatments they have will help me speed it up. But not too quickly because if my body will suffer because it's not healthy to lose weight too quick also. Take it from me.

My goal is not to get skinny or have someone else's figure. Even in the 80's, when I was trying to slim down or maintain my body, I accepted the fact that I'd never get the body of Cindy Crawford. And my long habits. There to look my own best. And my best may not be the type of "hot" looking body. But I had to some happy in skin "yes". That thought helped me embrace the real me. It helped me set my perspective to focus on getting to a decent weight that I will love and that people would appreciate.

Let's face it, since I was 17 years old, I've been a leading lady in movies already. So I owe it to my audience also. I want to give my fans my best. When they see me on-screen, gotta be some superhuman! like also.

Now, I've lost 7 inches off my stomach area alone and still counting. I'm happy to say that I'm pleased with the results! And I'm not happy in. I'm not haggard-looking. With the Marie France treatments, my skin is not, you know, itchy.

Marie France is doing wonders for me. With the technology they have, you can look your best at any age. I'm in my 40s and it's definitely made weight loss easier and safer. Now, I have more energy and I'm more enthusiastic. It makes me feel excited every single day. And getting the whole world opens up for me. It will be the same for other women because when you look your best, it's like you add 50% more sunshine into your life!

Now when I look at myself in the mirror, I say, "You're getting there. Don't let go."

And her slimming journey at Marie France continues.



IRENE MIGUEL Zubiri and her husband **Jay** at the launching of the coffee table book 'Bukidnon, the Philippine Frontier' at HBC Hall.



HAYTOR Chirivito, Sabalido, Big Pileto, Sen. Miguel Z., Ed and Lady Pileto and Rep. Seng Argueta.



PABLO and the three Barrios and Marga Flores.



JUDITH and Marga Tolentino with Erik Vertice and Erik Pineda.



SUSANSON Rep. Joy Zubiri and Sen. TG (Sabalido).



PECO and Gina Rivas.



MARILYN Xu, Sen. Argueta, Jay, Marga and Sen. Miguel with daughter Rubiana, Rep. Cacho del Rio and Lady Xu.



RICHARD Gomez, Roggie Jarama, Juan Jarama and wife.

They've written the book on Bukidnon

IF YOU haven't read it yet, perhaps, you must take this journey of the noble book on the last province of Bukidnon. Despite it being a Monday night, 180 people thronged to the NCC Tent in Bukidnon to be part of the unveiling of 'Bukidnon: The Philippine Frontier', a book published by bookbinding firm, Juan Miguel Zubiri, who conceptualized it five years ago when he visited his parents' wife, Lady Jay to his father's ancestral land in Bukidnon.

"I decided to write on the people that served the state in a decade," Sen. Zubiri said in his short speech. "This was when I realized a book had to be created in order to continue the preservation of the history and culture of the province and its people."

Illustrious writer, Agnita told the amazing story of Bukidnon through the voices representing many diverse groups, while Neal Ochoaiz captured the beauty, taking history and splendor of the land and its people. The result is a fantastic book with the unique spirit and heritage of Bukidnon on every page.

Additionally, the viable was passed on to Sen. Jay and his wife, Mrs. Jay. Sen. Jay and his wife, Mrs. Jay, who is a famous author, and their daughter, Mrs. Jay, who is a famous author, together with their social and business partners, are now working on the book, which is a testament to the spirit of Bukidnon.

Chavez in Miguel, who really cares for the people he serves and respects at home, in Bukidnon.

A 'Festival of Trees' once again

On Jan. 18, the annual 'Festival of Trees' was held for the 10th time, marking the 10th anniversary of the festival. The event was held at the Bukidnon Club, with the theme 'Festival of Trees'.



HARRY Pangloss giving the opening remarks at the 'Festival of Trees'.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH *Margaret Aracaba* Photos by Alex M. Argueta



MARGARET Aracaba, daughter of Alex M. Argueta and PT Rodriguez.

A 'Festival of Trees' raises money for the Marikina Watershed



MARGARET Aracaba, daughter of Alex M. Argueta and PT Rodriguez.



NEAL Ochoaiz, book author Agnita, Sen. Miguel Zubiri, Sen. Argueta and Mrs. Jay Zubiri.



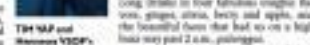
BUSINESSMAN and art collector Butch Campa and wife Dely, John and Paula Portino, and Sen. Raul Caparaso.



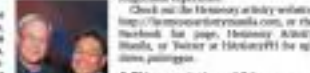
DORIS DUE English model and DJ LUCAS PAPA.



MIGUEL Pangloss and CHIRIVITO.



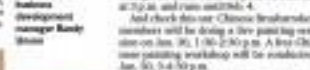
TOM WAP and MARGARET YDIP.



SILVIA Sanchez and MARGARET YDIP.



A Chinese painting exhibit.



A Chinese painting exhibit.



A Chinese painting exhibit.



A Chinese painting exhibit.



VICE GOV Jay and Lady Zubiri and Justice Eusebio (center) on a talk night out.



JIMBAKADOR Philip Haddigan, Ambassador Jesus Fernandez and wife Marga Aracaba.



TOMMY Rep. Cynthia W. Big Argueta and Spanish Ambassador Luis de la Haza.



ARCHITECT James Baccabato.



JED SHERMAN, Josephine Carl Gallegos and Phyllis Lumbao.



ADORA's Narda Yumali, Luf Engueta, Narda Laurena and Flora Diaz.



PETER Cordero, Celia Mend and Narda Laurena.



MARGARET YDIP, Sen. Argueta, Jay, Marga and Sen. Miguel with daughter Rubiana, Rep. Cacho del Rio and Lady Xu.



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